



NORFOLK

Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Lori A. Crouch, Public Relations Manager

COPIES TO: City Clerk, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Council Interests

DATE: April 4, 2014

I hope you had a nice week. Here is some information on some items of interest. I'm also including some information about an upcoming national story which has local impacts.

Charlotte Street Lighting: Norfolk Police Department Crime Prevention Unit will be conducting a light study along Charlotte Street and Walke Street. The officers will survey the overhead light and lights from nearby buildings within the survey area. Public Works crews identified some street lights out in the area. Dominion Virginia Power repaired the lights last week. Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NRHA) staff are checking the area again and will coordinate with city staff on their findings.

Windows XP: As you may be aware, Microsoft announced it will no longer support Windows XP after April 8, 2014. The deadline is sure to become national and possible local news stories. Staff has been changing software on the city's computers since April 2013. They've completed nearly 90%. The remaining computers are back-office and will not affect staff's ability to deliver quality customer service.

New GEM lot program: The work of an inter-department team has resulted in more than a \$155,000 savings each year for the GEM lot program. Under the new program, the city can spend up to \$80,000 a year to mow and maintain 241 GEM lots.

City staff will maintain 27 GEM lots in close proximity to other city-owned property. 63 GEM lots cannot be maintained because the property is under water, has excessive tree growth or are inaccessible. Due to the ongoing acquisition and conveyance of GEM lots, the number of properties in the GEM inventory fluctuates. Currently there are 331 GEM lots in the City of Norfolk.

Have a nice weekend.